

STATUTORY REFERENCES
FOR
MASSACHUSETTS CITIES AND TOWNS

The statutory references listed below refer the code user to state statutes applicable to Massachusetts cities and towns. They are up to date through June, 2004.

General Provisions

Powers and duties of cities and towns generally
ALM GL c 40 §§ 1—4F

City charters
ALM GL c 43

Boundaries of cities and towns
ALM GL c 42

Ordinances, by-laws and regulations
ALM GL c 40 §§ 21—33

Lockups
ALM GL c 40 §§ 34—37

Seal
ALM GL c 40 § 47

Elections
ALM GL c 50 et seq.

Administration and Personnel

City government generally
ALM GL c 39 §§ 1—8A

Government by mayor and city council elected at large
ALM GL c 43 §§ 46—55

Government by mayor, city council, and city manager
ALM GL c 43 §§ 79—92A

Government by mayor and council elected by wards and at large, and nominated at party primaries
ALM GL c 43 §§ 117—134

Standard form of representative town meeting government
ALM GL c 43A

Home rule procedures
ALM GL c 43B

Town meetings
ALM GL c 39 §§ 9—24

Open meetings
ALM GL c 39 § 23B

Taking, purchasing and abandonment of land
ALM GL c 40 §§ 14—15C

Records and reports
ALM GL c 40 §§ 48—52

Public records
ALM GL c 66

Election of town officers
ALM GL c 41 §§ 1—11

Disclosure of campaign expenditures and contributions
ALM GL c 55

Clerk
ALM GL c 41 §§ 12—19J

Selectmen
ALM GL c 41 §§ 20—23D

Assessors
ALM GL c 41 §§ 24—34B

Treasurer and collector
ALM GL c 41 §§ 35—43A

Sinking fund commissioners
ALM GL c 41 § 44

Commissioners of trust funds
ALM GL c 41 §§ 45—47

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Auditor
ALM GL c 41 §§ 48—54A

Accountant
ALM GL c 41 §§ 55—61

Temporary officers
ALM GL c 41 § 61A

Officers in charge of roads, sewers and water works
ALM GL c 41 §§ 62—69B

Fires, fire departments and fire districts
ALM GL c 48

Board of public works
ALM GL c 41 §§ 69C—69G

Planning board
ALM GL c 41 §§ 70—72; 81A—81J

Board of survey
ALM GL c 41 §§ 73—81

Art commission
ALM GL c 41 §§ 82—84

Weighers, measurers and surveyors of commodities
ALM GL c 41 §§ 85—90A

Constables
ALM GL c 41 §§ 91—95

Police officers
ALM GL c 41 §§ 96—101A

Regional police districts
ALM GL c 41 §§ 99B—99K

Indemnification of officers and employees
ALM GL c 41 §§ 100—100H

Inspector of health
ALM GL c 41 §§ 102—102B

Purchasing agent
ALM GL c 41 §§ 103—104

Tree warden
ALM GL c 41 § 106

Town physician
ALM GL c 41 § 106A

Terms of office and compensation of town officers
ALM GL c 41 §§ 107—109A

Municipal personnel systems
ALM GL c 31A

Retirement systems and pensions
ALM GL c 32

Holidays and vacations
ALM GL c 41 §§ 110—111N

Employment of veterans
ALM GL c 41 §§ 112—112A

District officers
ALM GL c 41 §§ 113—132

Tenure for certain appointive officers
ALM GL c 41 §§ 126—132

Disaster relief
ALM GL c 41 § 125

Revenue and Finance

Municipal finance generally
ALM GL c 44

Assessment and collection of local taxes
ALM GL c 59 and c 60

Purposes for which towns may appropriate money
ALM GL c 40 §§ 5—12

Public beach districts
ALM GL c 40 §§ 12B—13A

Taking, purchase and abandonment of land
ALM GL c 40 §§ 14—15C

Oaths of claimants demanding payment
ALM GL c 40 § 46

Illegal appropriations
ALM GL c 40 § 53

Annuities for hospital employees
ALM GL c 40 § 55

Property taxation
ALM GL c 40 § 56

Governmental units pooled insurance
ALM GL c 40M

Municipal indebtedness
ALM GL c 44 §§ 2—11

Liability for debts
ALM GL c 44 §§ 14—15

Bonds, notes and certificates of indebtedness
ALM GL c 44 §§ 16—22C

Form and certification of town and district notes
ALM GL c 44 §§ 23—27A

Report of borrowing
ALM GL c 44 § 28

Department appropriations
ALM GL c 44 §§ 30—31D

Budget in cities
ALM GL c 44 §§ 32—33B

Auditing
ALM GL c 44 §§ 35—46A

Sinking funds
ALM GL c 44 §§ 47—52

Miscellaneous financial provisions
ALM GL c 44 §§ 53—72

Business Licenses and Regulations

Licenses generally
ALM c 40 §§ 22F and 57; c 140

Regulation of carriages, taxicabs, etc.
ALM GL c 40 § 22

Alcoholic liquors
ALM c 138

Rent Control Prohibition Act
ALM GL c 40P

Animals

Dogs
ALM GL c 140 §§ 136A—174D

Pounds and impounding of cattle
ALM GL c 49 §§ 22—41

Health and Safety

Vital statistics
ALM GL c 46

Infirmaries
ALM GL c 47

Fires, fire departments and fire districts
ALM GL c 48

Recycling programs
ALM GL c 40 § 8H

Public Peace, Morals and Welfare

Crimes and punishments generally
ALM GL c 263—274

Curfews
ALM GL c 40 § 37A

Vehicles and Traffic

Laws of the road
ALM GL c 89

Parking and parking meters
ALM GL c 40 §§ 22A—22D

Procedures for traffic offenses
ALM GL c 90C

Streets, Sidewalks and Public Places

Public parks, playgrounds and the public domain
ALM GL c 45

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Improvement districts
ALM GL c 40 §§ 44—44L

Snow and ice removal
ALM GL c 40 § 7

Public Services

Public water supply
ALM GL c 40 §§ 38—42

Collection of water rates
ALM GL c 40 §§ 42A—42K

Improvement districts
ALM GL c 40 §§ 44—44L

Regional refuse disposal districts
ALM GL c 40 §§ 44A—44L

Buildings and Construction

Building permits
ALM GL c 40 §§ 54-59

Subdivisions

Subdivision control
ALM GL c 41 §§ 81K—81GG

Planning and Zoning

Zoning generally
ALM GL c 40A §§ 1—17

Zoning board of appeals
ALM GL c 40A § 14

Regional planning
ALM GL c 40B

Historic districts
ALM GL c 40C

Industrial development of cities and towns
ALM GL c 40D

Improved method of municipal planning
ALM GL c 41 §§ 81A—81J